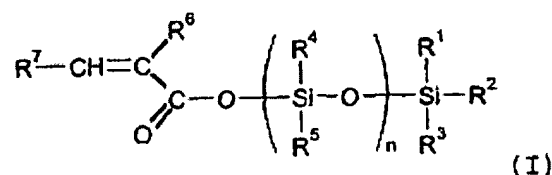


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A process for the production of hydrocarbyl silyl unsaturated carboxylates of formula (I)



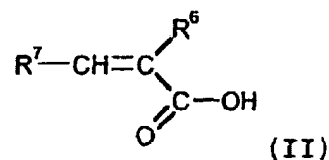
wherein

$\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^4, \text{R}^5$ each independently represent hydrogen, hydroxyl, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, aralkyloxy, $-\text{O}-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{O}-(\text{SiR}^4\text{R}^5\text{O})_n-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$ or aralkyl radical optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from the group comprising alkyl, alkoxy, aralkyl, aralkyloxy, aryl, aryloxy, silyl, $-\text{O}-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$, $-\text{O}-(\text{SiR}^4\text{R}^5\text{O})_n-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$, hydroxyl, halogen, amino or amino alkyl radicals, or may independently be an $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{C}(\text{R}^6)=\text{CHR}^7$ group;

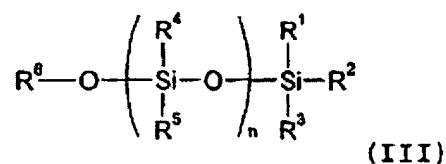
R^6 represents a hydrogen atom, or an alkyl group, or $(-\text{R}^{11}-)_o\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^{10}$ wherein R^{10} represents an hydrogen atom, $-(\text{SiR}^4\text{R}^5\text{O})_n-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$ wherein $\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^4, \text{R}^5$ are as already defined or an alkyl group; wherein R^{11} is independently selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl or an aralkyl radical optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aralkyl, aryl, hydroxyl, halogen, amino or amino alkyl radicals; $o=0$ or 1 ;

R^7 represents a hydrogen atom, or independently represents alkyl, aryl, aralkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl radical optionally substituted with the same radicals as defined for R^6 above or R^7 represents $-\text{COOR}^9$ wherein R^9 represents an hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or $-(\text{SiR}^4\text{R}^5\text{O})_n-\text{SiR}^1\text{R}^2\text{R}^3$ wherein $\text{R}^1, \text{R}^2, \text{R}^3, \text{R}^4$ and R^5 are as already defined;

by reaction of an unsaturated carboxylic acid of formula (II)



wherein R^6 and R^7 in formula (II) are as defined above; with a hydrocarbyl silyl compound of formula (III)



wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 are as defined above and R^6 is an hydrogen atom, an alkyl, aralkyl or aryl, alkenyl or alkynyl group optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the equivalent substituents as detailed for R^1 - R^5 above; and each n above independently represents a number of dihydrocarbylsiloxane units from 0 to 1000; the said reaction being carried out in the presence of a silaphilic catalyst.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 and R^5 each independently represent an alkyl, an aryl group or a hydrogen atom.

3. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 and R^9 are each independently selected from the group comprising methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, n-butyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl.

4. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 and R^9 are independently methyl.

5. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are n-butyl.

6. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein the silaphilic catalyst is selected from catalysts are fluoride containing mineral or organic salts which comprise sodium fluoride, potassium fluoride, caesium fluoride or tetrabutyl ammonium fluoride (Bu_4NF); or isare selected from N-methyl imidazole(NMI), N,N-dimethylamino pyridine(DMAP), hexamethylphosphoric triamide (HMPA), 4,4 dimethyl imidazole, N methyl-2-pyridone(NMP), pyridine N-oxide, triphenylphosphine oxide, 2,4 dimethyl pyridine, N-methyl 4-pyridone, dimethyl formamide(DMF), 3,5 dimethyl pyridine, N,N-dimethylethylene Urea(DMEU), N,N-dimethylpropylene Urea (DMPU), pyridine, imidazole, trimethylamine, dimethyl sulphoxide(DMSO), N-methyl pyrrolidinone(NMP), formamide, N-alkylformamides, N,N-dialkylformamides, acetamide, N- alkylacetamides, N, N-dialkylacetamides, alkylcyanides, N-methyl pyrrolidone, p-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde, 1, 2-dimethyl imidazole, LiOH, LiStearate, NaI, MeONa or MeOLi; wherein the term alkyl includes any linear cyclic, bicyclic, polycyclic, alkyl aliphatic or aromatic group and in the case of N,N-compounds the alkyl may be the same or different.

7. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the catalysts are homogenous or heterogenous.

8. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1 wherein the catalyst is able to coordinate reversibly with the silicon atom.

9. (Original) A process according to claim 8, wherein the catalyst is capable of forming a penta or hexa coordinated silicon species.

10. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 , R^6 , R^8 , R^9 and R^7 are alkyl radicals independently selected from methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl n-butyl, isobutyl, sec-butyl, tert-butyl, 2-methylbutyl, pentyl, iso-amyl, hexyl, cyclohexyl, 3-methylpentyl, octyl and the like.

11. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the hydrocarbyl silyl esters of formula I are selected from tri-n-butyl 1- (meth)acryloyloxy-silane, tri-n-propyl-1-

(meth)acryloyloxy silane, tri-t-butyl-1- (meth)acryloyloxy-silane, tri-isopropyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-silane, triisobutyl-1- (meth)acryloyloxy-silane, tri-methyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-silane, triethyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-silane, tribenzyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-
silane, triamyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-silane, triphenyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy silane, nonamethyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nonaethyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-t-butyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nonabenzyl-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-isopropyl-
1-(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-n-propyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-isobutyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-amyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-n-butyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-dodecyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-hexyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-phenyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, nona-octyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-tetrasiloxane, undecamethyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undecaethyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-t-butyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undecabenzyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-isopropyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-n-propyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-isobutyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-amyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-n-butyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-dodecyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-hexyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-phenyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, undeca-octyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-pentasiloxane, tridecamethyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, tridecaethyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-t-butyl-1-
(meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, tridecabenzyl-1-

(meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-isopropyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-n-propyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-isobutyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-amyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-n-butyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-dodecyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-hexyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-phenyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, trideca-octyl-1-
 (meth)acryloyloxy-hexasiloxane, 1,3,3,3-tetramethyl-1-trimethylsilyloxy-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-
 disiloxane, 1-ethyl-3,3,3-trimethyl-1-trimethylsilyloxy-1-(meth)acryloyloxy-disiloxane,
 tris-(trimethylsilyloxy)-1-methacryloyloxy-silane and polymers thereof.

12. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the catalysts are independently selected from DMF, DMSO, formamide, N-alkylformamides, N, N-dialkylformamides, acetamide, N-alkylacetamides, N,N-dialkylacetamides, N- Methyl pyrrolidone, p-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde, DMAP, N- methyl imidazole, 1,2-dimethyl imidazole, HMPA, DMPU, NaI, MeONa, MeOLi, Bu₄NF, Ph₃PO, LiOH, LiStearate and pyridine N-oxide.

13. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the catalysts are present at a level of 0.001-100 mol% (mol/mol silane).

14. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction includes a polymeric inhibitor.

15. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in a suitable solvent.

16. (Original) A process according to claim 15, wherein suitable solvents include non polar inert solvents, aliphatic hydrocarbons, cyclic and non cyclic ethers.

17. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 16, wherein the solvent is independently selected from pentane, hexane, heptane, toluene, xylene, benzene, mesitylene, ethylbenzene, octane, decane, decahydronaphthlene, diethyl ether, diisopropyl ether, diisobutyl ether or mixtures thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 15, wherein the solvent causes no distillation of any of the reactants but allows reactive distillation.

19. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 15, wherein the solvent forms a low boiling azeotrope with the distilled R^8OH .

20. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 15, wherein the solvents are independently selected from pentane, hexane, heptane, toluene and xylene.

21. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out in the range $0^{\circ}C$ - $200^{\circ}C$.

22. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein a polymerisation inhibitor is present in the range 0.001-10% wt/wt of the total reaction mix.

23. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of silane:acid is between 1:100 and 50:1.

24. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein the solvent is at least 10 wt% of the total reaction mix at the start of the reaction.

25. (Previously Presented) A hydrocarbyl silyl monomer as defined in formula I produced by a process in accordance with claim 1.

26. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the number of (alk)acryloyl groups in formula I is less than 4.
27. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein the number of (alk)acryloyl groups in formula I is less than 1.
28. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein when R^{10} represents alkyl or hydrogen in formula II, it represents $-(SiR^4R^5O)_n-SiR^1R^2R^3$ in formula I, wherein n and R^1-R^5 are as defined previously.
29. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein when R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 or R^5 are aryloxy, alkaryloxy, alkoxy or hydroxy in formula III, they may represent $O-C(O)-C(R^6)=CHR^7$ in formula I.
30. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein where R^9 represents an alkyl group or an hydrogen atom in formula (II), it may represent $-(SiR^4R^5O)_n-SiR^1R^2R^3$ in formula (I).
31. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1 wherein said catalyst may be a metal alkoxide, an organic tin compound or a boron compound or cyclic 1,3,5-triisopropoxycyclotrialuminoxane and the like.
32. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 6, wherein the silaphilic catalyst is N-formyl Rosinamine.